

THE CHINA MAIL.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, 4TH OCTOBER, 1866.

BIRTH.

At Shanghai, on the 21st September, the Wife of William George Barrow, of a Daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 15th of August, at the Church of the Holy Trinity, Hongkong, by the Rev. W. Dunford (Guardian of the bride) assisted by the Rev. J. Smith, Edward Charles Bowyer, Imperial Maritime Customs, to Frances, third daughter of the late S. Woodward, Esq. of Calcutta.

DEATHS.

On the 7th Aug. at Manchester, aged 47, Frederick Henry Tootal, Esq., eldest son of Henry Tootal, Esq., of Brighton, Sussex.

At Shanghai, on the 24th September, Ernest de St. Croix, aged 20 years.

At Swallow, on the 21st September, Thomas Scharler, Bishop Wearmouth, Durham, Master Mariner, late of Dutch barque Palembang, aged 38 years.

ECLOGES OF THE WEEK.

After the "seven days war" in Europe people are beginning to yawn over the scanty items of Japanese news which come to hand in dribbles. By the last advices from Nagasaki we learn that H. M. S. *Argus* has left for the Inland Sea, where she will remain to watch proceedings. The capture of Kokura and Surats (?) by Chosin is confirmed. The *Arise* has been sold to the Japanese, but not yet delivered. For the present she is still under charter.

From Corea we learn by private advices that the French Admiral, in the *Primoguet*, with the *Turdiff* and *Deroulade*, left Chefoo to take a survey of the coast of the Corea. We expect shortly to hear of more active operations in that neighbourhood. The Coreans will doubtless be astonished at the hornet's nests they have raised about their ears by the murder and torture of a few barbarians. From Tientsin we have fresh rumours of an intended assassination of the foreigners at the Capital. We refer our readers to a letter which appears in another part of our columns for particulars, but must confess to feeling some incredulity of the news.

A large fire has broken out at Chinkiang, in consequence of the careless way in which the natives chain chim'd the moon then eclipsed.

A notification has been issued by the Consul at Hankow, cautioning British merchants there against importing illegally coined silver dollars, which are now in circulation.

Characters *K'wan yung* 寬永, obverse, instead of the style of some Emperor of the present. The merchants are also further against importing the "sand-skin" variety *shu'ku* 砂殼, a still smaller cash of similar properties, under penalty of confiscation.

Mr. Medhurst has also issued a circular (not in his official capacity) inviting the people of Hankow to subscribe towards the erection of a church at that place. The building now hired for church purposes will have to be definitively given up at the end of September and there is no prospect that a public service will be able to be kept up after that date. It has been suggested that a room at the British Consulate should be placed at the disposal of the church committee, and by others that another building might be procured on a tenure similar to that under which the present one is held. As regards a room at the Consulate, Mr. M. explained that however desirous he is as H. B. M.'s Consul to do all in his power to oblige the community, he does not feel himself called upon to alienate any portion of the consulate office from its legitimate purpose, when he sees so little prospect of ever having the portion so lent placed again at his full disposal. The other alternative, that of hiring another building in the place of one now about to be given up seems to be equally out of the question through want of funds. The sum required is £15,000, half of which will be obtained from the home government, when the other moiety is locally subscribed. The subscription list opens to-day, a public meeting of subscribers is to be held when the list is filled up.

From Shanghai there is no news of political importance. The heat seems to have been excessive. The *News* says.—The summer has closed with a list of deaths from pure heat and exhaustion, long enough to make the hardiest consider what means are available to brace his constitution against the enfeebling influence of July and August in coming years, or how he may best recruit his strength and restore its tone after such weather as the continued nearness of the mercury to 100° of Fahrenheit indicates. Heat apoplexy, this year, has taken the place of Cholera, and has carried off nearly as many victims as previous epidemics. Chinese suffered as heavily as foreigners, notwithstanding the careful avoidance of artificial stimulants which, we are told, the wisdom of a hundred generations has taught them.

A Meeting of shareholders in the Shanghai Wharf Company was held on the 26th to deliberate on the means of raising a loan of £15,000 to pay off the mortgage held by the Commercial Bank, for which the liquidators were pressing; and a resolution was

passed leaving the deeds in the hands of the Commercial Bank to deal with as the liquidators might please.

The Taotai has expressed his readiness to follow the example of his predecessor, in giving a cup to be shot for at the volunteer rifle meeting to be held in November.

A Lighthouse is to be erected at the entrance of the Yangtze its cost to be defrayed by the Customs.

Locally we have several items of news to record. The Chinese deputation who presented a memorial against the imposition of a Stamp Tax and various other small matters were not received last Saturday in consequence of the Chinese version of His Excellency's reply not having been prepared. They are to "call again" next Saturday, and will we doubt not receive a very convincing answer to their objections. The Memorial from the English residents has not yet been prepared; with such sharp men, on the committee as those elected we cannot account for the delay. Delays are proverbially dangerous, and the Colonial Office will have had time to swallow and digest the arguments in favor of the act before a line against it makes its appearance from Hongkong. Outwardly all signs of agitation have died away, but perhaps something is yet going to be done.

No particulars of the success or otherwise of the police in detecting the pirates who attacked the *Lubra* have as yet been given to the public, and we think they are wise in withholding information calculated to put the scoundrels on the alert.

The return of Mr. Commissioner Pin and his companions has been one of the noticeable events of the past week; he is now we believe at Canton, enjoying *Opium* (not Opium as it has been wickedly suggested) *cum dignitate* after his extensive travels.

The news of the arrival in England of the tea clippers *Taipeing*, *Ariel*, *Serica* and *Fiery Cross* in the order named has created a little excitement; more than one resident in Hongkong has lost "a figure or two" of dollars on the event, while of course others have won them.

The case of the *Prince Albert*, confiscated some months since at Canton for being found at a port not open by treaty has, it is said, been referred to Peking. A contemporary says that a fresh enquiry has been ordered into the circumstances of the "Sir R. Alcock." The news may be true, but we doubt it.

Only Sir Richard has not yet been enabled him to "order" the authorities. We must wait to see the day arrive when British officials can give orders to the Chinese, but we fear our contemporary in this case is in advance of the age by some fifty years or so. We should be glad to hear nevertheless that the *Prince Albert* was restored to her owner. A committee has been appointed to "sit upon" the mint.

Messrs. Mercer, Whittall, and Long. No better selection could have been made. These gentlemen whose opinions represent the three sections of the Colony as respects the mint—those friendly to the scheme; those opposed to it, and those who are neutral—will doubtless furnish a most complete report which will set at rest the troublesome discussions which occasionally arise upon the subject. They have already commenced work.

Gambler's are getting hard times of it. Mr. Dams, who has lately returned to the Colony, is going zealously to work and has begun to make Hongkong hot for them.

Telegraphic and Railway projects from the East are now quite popular. We rejoice to see signs of vitality in the North China Railway scheme. Active correspondence is already taking place upon the subject between the Company and its agents abroad.

THE PORTUGUESE CLUB HOUSE, now fast approaching completion, will be a noteworthy addition to the architectural edifices of this city. Besides the ordinary accommodation provided in first class Club Houses, it includes a very neat and spacious theatre. The Club will thus supply a want that has long been felt here. Mr. Storey is the architect of the building, and it is creditable to his skill and taste in architecture. It is no less gratifying as an evidence of the liberality and enterprise of our Lusitanian fellow-residents. We understand that it will be opened with a formal demonstration on their part, and that His Excellency the Governor of Macao will be invited to take part in the opening ceremony.

The Cricket season has commenced in Hongkong, the first game having been played a few days since and the event formally inaugurated by a dinner in the Evening.

The English Mail has arrived unusually early this trip, being five days before her time. The *Optima* is the vessel that has thus honorably distinguished herself.

The ten War junks, recently alluded to as rendezvousing at Macao, have not been idle, it appears. About ten days back they proceeded down the West Coast to a large town, called Cong Moon, where they captured four piratical crafts and made

at least one hundred prisoners, all of whom were despatched to Canton.

The four missing soldiers belonging to the War junks were returned a short while since all safe and sound—after having been detained at some barracoons upwards of a fortnight.

We hear there was quite a row on the 23rd instant, on Sunday last, in the inner Harbour, opposite the Custom House, between some of the crews of the War junks, and a number of Coolie brokers. Two of the latter were seized, and killed by the former. The junks have left Macao en route for the coast northward of Hongkong in search of more pirates.

ENGLAND AND CHINA.

We hope that the essay on "England and China," in the first volume of the just published work on "International Policy," will not be accepted by the home public without great qualification of its contents. The whole essay is not in our possession, but from the abstract given of it in the *London and China Express*, it seems to us to have been written for the purpose of bringing discredit on the present generation of English merchants in China, by revival of old imputations of moral debasement, conveyed in a narrative of the events which preceded and followed our collision with the Chinese in 1840-42. It is said to be historically correct. We must for the present accept our contemporary's assurance on that head; but there are other portions of the essay that invite immediate comment.

It is desirable to remark (says the writer) that on this, as on almost every other occasion, it is the mercantile class that has taken the initiative in recommending measures of violence. It is equally desirable to remember, in order to form an idea of the *animus* of the essayist, that the conduct of the merchants is described as having been invariably animated by "brutal greed," and "unscrupulous avarice," in the prosecution of the opium trade. It is not necessary, for any moral or political reason, to revert to that period of our history. Another generation of merchants in China has sprung up, and the opium trade has ceased to be an illegal traffic. It has become a necessity, and experience has shown that it affords no ground for the insidious sentimentalism which once gained such expression at Exeter hall meetings. India complacently views its increase as indicated in her revenue tables, while no complaints are made by the Chinese or by any local humanitarians that the trade is prejudicial to Chinese morals, or that it is attended by any consequences that would render it liable to a special anathema from Christians who drink brandy and smoke tobacco. But the author of the essay makes no distinction between the circumstances of 1840 and 1866, so that the innocent minds of its untravelled readers are led to the belief that exceptional incidents of the opium war are still characteristics of the opium traffic.

It will be very unfortunate indeed, in view of the complications that are arising in our trade generally with the Chinese, if the home British mind remains infected with the notions which this essay is calculated to strengthen; for it will be very "desirable" that our future negotiations with the government of that empire, whether conducted in peaceful correspondence or at the point of the bayonet, should escape impediment from home ignorance of the real merits of questions in dispute, of the true character of Chinese diplomacy, and of the conduct of British traders at Chinese ports. We have no desire to become apologists for the transactions by which our present regular intercourse with China was inaugurated, but we do most earnestly protest against the injustice of even justifying the slightest comparison between the time referred to by the essayist and the present. It is true that our connection with China is now, as it was then, simply maintained for commercial purposes, and it is more than probable that future differences between the two countries will arise out of mercantile considerations; for the existing Treaty not only operates unfairly upon the interests of foreign commerce by its provisions, but by the looseness of its construction the Chinese are enabled to interpose obstacles to trade that were never contemplated by its framers. Public opinion in England must be prepared to approach the solution of our next Chinese difficulty with a full comprehension of the facts that our excessive anxiety to keep within the terms of the treaty, our submission to many local aggressions on our trade, and the extent to which the foreign Merchants by supineness have allowed their business to fall into the hands of Chinese, are among the circumstances that have induced a renewal of the old feeling of contempt for the foolish barbarians, who have consented to so many squeezes and been so easily outwitted. It will be the "Mercantile class" that will have again to take the "initiative in recommending measures," for it is only on points of commercial policy that any collision between China and England can possibly occur. It may suit such writers as the author of the essay to affect to regard "brutal greed," or "unscrupulous avarice" as the motive which actuates our merchants, but it will be matter for regret if the English public permit themselves to be misled by such unscrupulous and certainly malicious insinuations, that are discredit to the writer and very mischievous in their nature.

Our contemporary the *L. and C. Express* expresses a hope that the ordinances introduced by Sir Richard Macdonnell "will prove the first of a long series of reforms that will enable us at no distant day to regard the Colony as a credit instead of a standing disgrace to the crown," and the writer of the essay sincerely asks, "what has English policy

done to modify the many nautical crimes that have abounded here?" Well the answer is that England is the only one of the powers profiting by the Treaty that attempts to suppress piracy, which she finds herself utterly unable to do single-handed. There is not much "disgrace" in that. If our contemporary applies the term to Hongkong it is unjust towards men who have mainly been instrumental in developing foreign commerce in the East to its present enormous extent, under circumstances of difficulty and danger that can hardly be appreciated by the "home-keeping youths" who so positively pronounce their condemnation.

THE "PRINCE ALBERT" CASE.

The seizure of the *Prince Albert* some months ago by the Chinese authorities at Canton has again become a matter of public discussion. That an appeal to the Chinese authorities at Peking had been made by her owner, Mr. Quok Acheong, we notified some days since, and in so doing took occasion to express our hope that his appeal would be successful. There is but one feeling in the Colony as to the hardship inflicted upon the *Prince Albert's* owner in his having, through a technical but not moral, offence against the treaty provisions, been made the scapegoat, as it were, for others far more guilty in this way; and if the Chinese authorities can be induced to take that view of the case we are rejoiced to hear it. An article in the *Hongkong Daily Press* of this morning, however, conveys so erroneous an impression of the means by which this desirable object is to be brought about, that by way of presenting to the public, who are not supposed to have devoted much time to the study of Consular or Customs regulations, a clear statement of the case, it may be well to point out the gross errors into which our contemporary has fallen.

After stating that the steamer was seized by the Chinese authorities, and in consequence of the inexplicable conduct of the British Consul, Mr. Robertson, confiscated by the Mandarins at Canton, he says, "We understand that Sir Rutherford Alcock has ordered a new enquiry." How Sir Rutherford Alcock is to order the "Chinese authorities" to hold a new enquiry we are not informed, and in this matter we are doubtless behind our contemporary and the age in general. But some little acquaintance with the Treaty regulations, and a certain document called "Rules for adjudication of Customs seizures," enables us to state most positively that up to the date of the latest advices from Peking Sir Rutherford had not been created Regent of the empire, had not been made president of the foreign board, and in fine—for it's as well to be particular in these matters—had not shaved his head, or grown a pigtail, or performed any of those little preliminary ceremonies which in these days at least would be necessary before he became "a complete Chinaman." The *Press* probably means that the *Tsing ti yanben* has directed a fresh trial at the instance of the British Minister—a quite possible but improbable supposition.

This however is not by any means the only curious evidence of that utter unacquaintance with its subject which now distinguishes the remarks on Chinese affairs in the *Press*. After some general observations on our policy with China (which we fully endorse, for we quarrel not with the truths but the errors of the article) it goes on to say, "It is to be hoped that the appeal will not merely be from Mr. Robertson before, to Mr. Robertson after, receipt of a lecture from Peking." Now as there never was any appeal to Mr. Robertson "before" the trial, and most certainly can be none after, we must again confess our ignorance of that information of which our contemporary appears to have a private tap to be turned on only for his own convenience. Instead of using our own words, we will quote some paragraphs of the Regulations, dated 27th October 1865, which will possibly make matters clear to the readers of the bewildering sentence above noticed.

The first article provides that after a ship has been seized the owner will receive notice

"That the said ship or goods will be confiscated unless before noon on a certain day, being the sixth day from the date of the delivery of the notice, the Superintendent receive from the British Consul an official application to have the case fully investigated."

The latter part of Article 1 states that if, after explanation afforded, "The Superintendent still declines to release the ship or goods, he may appeal to his Consul, who will write to inform the Superintendent of the particulars of his appeal and to request him, the Superintendent, to make a day for the public investigation of the evidence on which the action of the Customs is founded."

Article 11.—The Superintendent, on receipt of the Consul's communication, will name a day for meeting him at the Custom-house, and the Consul will desire the merchant to appear with his witnesses, at the Custom-house on the day named, and will himself on that day proceed to the Custom-house. The Superintendent will invite the Consul to take his seat with him. The Commissioner of Customs will also be seated to assist the Superintendent. Proceedings will be opened by the Superintendent, who will call on the Customs employees who have seized the ship or goods to state the circumstances which occasioned the seizure, and will question them according to their evidence. Whatever the merchant interested may have to state in contradiction of their evidence he will state to the Consul, who will cross examine them for him. Such will be the proceedings in the interest of truth and fairness."

(The Consul and Superintendent may appear by deputy.) Article III states that "Notes will be taken of the statements of all parties examined, and the paper containing these will be signed and sealed by the Consul and the Superintendent. The room will then be cleared, and the

Superintendent will inform the Consul of the course he proposes to pursue. If he proposes to confiscate the vessel or goods and the Consul dissent, the merchant interested may appeal, and the Consul having given notice of the appeal to the Superintendent, they will forward copies of the above notes—the Consul to the Minister, and the Superintendent to the Yamen of Foreign Affairs at Peking. If the Consul agrees with the Superintendent that the ship or goods ought to be confiscated, the merchant will not be entitled to appeal. In no case will the release of ship or goods entitle the merchant to indemnification for the seizure, whether these be released after the investigation at the Custom-house or after appeal to the high authorities of both nations at Peking."

Now with these regulations before us it is difficult to see wherein lies the appeal in any case to the British Consul. The "appeal" is to the high authorities of both nations at Peking; precisely as, if a French vessel were seized in English waters, the appeal would lie to the British Authorities and French Minister in London, who would correspond on the subject.

We are not by any means desirous of making out a case for the Customs Authorities in this instance. They acted, as did the British Consul, up to the letter of the law which (Treaty Art. 47) makes the *unlawful entry* of a port alone punishable by confiscation. That law in this case involved peculiar hardship to the unfortunate owner of the *Prince Albert*, and we think that in this instance justice might well have been tempered with mercy. Merely in its legal aspect, however, the case has many peculiar features reflecting favourably on those engaged in its conduct. The regulations, quoted above refer exclusively to Shanghai, and in strict right the Customs authorities at Canton had the power of seizing the vessel without any Consular intervention whatever. The Customs Superintendent at Canton voluntarily acted upon them in this case in order that the matter might have a fair hearing.

It seems to have been overlooked by the *Press*, and those whose opinions it represents, that the power of seizure is vested in the Chinese authorities by the 47th and 48th articles of the treaty, which both declare that British vessels violating the treaty "shall be subject to confiscation by the Chinese authorities." The regulations open with the words "when any ship or goods may be seized by the Customs," clearly showing that the act of "seizure" is to be performed by the Customs.

We have stated these facts in order to show where the real onus of confiscation lies or, rather what share of the responsibility lies with the foreign Consul and native Customs authorities respectively. The only power possessed by the Consul was that of a sort of veto compelling an appeal to Peking. That he did not exercise that power is undoubtedly, in this case, much to be regretted, but let no more than his due share of the responsibility be allotted to him. Any one acquainted with his past official life will smile at the charge of "pliability in Chinese hands," and the Chinese officials at least have a curiously opposite opinion of his temperament.

After all that has been said upon the subject, however, it may be well to add that we have strong reasons to doubt, from private information, that any action has been taken to reverse the decision come to by the Canton Customs officials. On public grounds alone, as the regulations state that no appeal is permitted when the Consul concurs in the judgment given, we have but too good cause to fear that Mr. Quok Acheong will not regain his ship. We should be heartily glad to know that he has a prospect of making an appeal successfully.

OUR POLICY IN CHINA.

The present political condition of China with respect to its rebellions may be not inaptly likened to that of a man afflicted with a well known Hongkong plague—blind boils. No sooner does it seem that a rebel movement in any part of the Empire is approaching a state in which defeat, like a surgeon's lancet would be comparative extinction, than it is apparently reabsorbed into the circulation, as it were, of the empire, only to break out again in another place painfully and threateningly and with much the same result. We have heard little or nothing for the past month of the Nienfu, Taipings, or other troublesome bodies of men of a similar nature, and foreigners are almost beginning to forget that rebels exist. Those only who supply arms which, by indirect means it is true, but none the less surely, reach rebel hands, have their attention kept alive to the fact that rebellion is still arming itself for fresh struggles. The great movement known as the Taijping rebellion is doubtless extinguished for the present, but the fact—not generally known, that within the last two months a portion of the Empire—Kansuh—has been severed definitely from Imperial Government, and that by a section of the population descended from a race proverbial for its annexing propensities, is sufficient to cause lively uneasiness to the authorities at Peking. Whether the Chinese exponents of Mahomedanism will attempt any further conquest remains to be seen. All accounts hitherto to hand represent the Chinese Government as either unable or unwilling to attempt the reconquest of Kansuh, and they are perhaps wise in leaving it for the present to itself.

No events of this nature can, however, be passed over as uninteresting to foreign residents in China. The policy we pursue must be materially modified to meet the changes which occur in the interior of the Empire; as for example in the matter of transit duties. It is of course impossible to insist on the Chinese carrying out the treaty provisions in districts disturbed by or in possession of the rebels; and even later than the intelligence respecting Kansuh the news of a formidable body of rebels having made

their appearance in the tea districts. We have two courses open to us in dealing with the Chinese under these circumstances—either to leave China to stand and fall alone, or to afford its government material help and protection in times of internal difficulty. The consideration as to how far we should carry out either the one or the other policy turns upon the question as to whether we intend to demand from the Chinese a full compliance with the engagements into which they have entered with us. If we do so intend, and foreign life and property are to be respected afloat and ashore, we are obviously taking a more than tyrannical course in holding them responsible for acts which they are utterly powerless to prevent. Our demands, moreover, must perforce in such a case be passed over, and we must suffer in every way, not only in material loss of life and goods but in the loss of prestige amongst the Chinese.

What then must we do. The Minister for foreign affairs, whose policy has humbled and degraded the name of England in the eyes of the world, has thus far exactly succeeded in "interfering where interference is useless and leaving matters alone which have called for strong reprobation and stronger action." Our policy since the signing of the treaty has in fact been the "peace and comfort policy." Secretly sneered at by the Chinese, indignantly watched by all the states of Europe and America, we have just done enough in China to win the sincere hatred of all and the respect of none. Individual Chinese doubtless appreciate the general uprightness of our Consuls, and two or three Chinese high Mandarins in Peking are able to form a fair estimate of the blundering good intentions which invariably distinguish British diplomacy abroad. But our position with the great mass of the Chinese, as we have above described it, and until we lay down some decided course of policy to which we intend to adhere, so long shall we remain in our present degraded position.

AN OMISSION.

The fact that no inquest was held on the bodies of Capt. Howes, and the seaman of the *Lubra*, previous to interment, has been much commented on; and it is no doubt a thing of very exceptional nature—might perhaps say unprecedented—occurrence in any other colony of Great Britain. The official reason assigned for the omission is, that the deceased died at a place beyond the jurisdiction of the Hongkong Coroner. That His Excellency the Governor, and the Coroner, acted in good faith in taking no official coronial notice of the presence in our Civil Hospital of the bodies of two dead men, whose death had undoubtedly been caused by violence, must of course be admitted; but we think that both are labouring under a misconception of their responsibility in the matter. We shall endeavour to remove it.

His Excellency the Governor, by his letters patent, is coroner under the Admiralty jurisdiction for the Colony of Hongkong and its dependencies, his duties of coroner being of course performed by deputy. The letters patent prescribe that he shall take "cognizance and view of dead bodies of all persons who have ever killed or drowned or murdered, within his maritime jurisdiction," but they do not limit his coronial duties to such cases, for to do so would be contrary to English statute law, by which the office and functions of coroner are regulated; and statute law is, or ought to be, of as much force in Hongkong as it is in England.

The statute 9 Geo. IV. c. 31. s. 8, enacted that where any person, being feloniously stricken or otherwise hurt upon the sea, or at any place out of England, died of such hurt in England; or being so hurt in England died upon the sea or at any place out of England; the offence was to be dealt with (that is, the inquest, &c., to be held) in the county or place in England, in which such death or hurt occurred, as if the offence had been wholly committed in such county or place. Many difficulties arose on the construction of this and other statutes relating to the jurisdiction of coroners. The fees accruing from inquests being worth struggling for, rival coroners whose jurisdiction adjoined each other placed their own interpretations on Acts of Parliament and many unseemly scenes were the consequence. To remedy this defect, the 6th Vic. c. 12 enacted, "That the coroner only within whose jurisdiction the body of any person, upon whose death an inquest ought to be holden shall be *lying dead*, shall hold the inquest, notwithstanding that the cause of death did not arise within the jurisdiction of such coroner."

This enactment applies mainly to county coroners, but it also contemplates "deputy coroners for the jurisdiction of the Admiralty of England" (such an officer as the Hongkong coroner) as may be seen by reference to the statute. The 7th Geo. IV. c. 64 s. 9, provides that a coroner, court may inquire into the culpability of "accessories before the fact," that is, for instance, into the complicity of the pirates who boarded the *Lubra* with the offence of their comrade murderer who shot Captain Howes, "although such offence may have been committed either on the high sea, or at any place on land, whether within His Majesty's dominions or without." Now Captain Howes and one of his crew were persons *lying dead within the jurisdiction of the Hongkong coroner*, and as it was manifest that their deaths had been occasioned by violence, an inquest "ought to have been held," notwithstanding that the cause of death did not arise within such jurisdiction. The statute 6 and 7 Vic. was extended to Hongkong by ordinance No. 3 of 1856.

The legal duty of a coroner of the Admiralty in such a case as this under notice seems clear, and it is very much to be regretted on public grounds that it was not discharged. Very probably dead bodies of men killed by pirates in the

China seas will again deplore the repetition of what we hope His Excellency's instructions to his deputy in taking voluntary office of "dead bodies lying within the jurisdiction," whose deaths were only occasioned by violence.

RETURN OF

The return of the Chinese Pin tiao ye by the French to have an important effect on the Chinese Government. We have length pointed out how was committed by our receiving the Commission truth and indeed been a and have expressed our accurate report be for him it will rather terrify Celestial eyes. It is, however, to learn that he has member of the foreign Chinese, with that which distinguishes their him an appointment of the importance of his after, instead of before. This is satisfactory of the index it is a indication of the Central blish on a more satisfactory baren charged with such affairs, than from any gr which is likely to be a berations by the present Commissioner; and, as events a desire to advance retrograde, must be taken.

Strong as have been the folly which has European public in its respectable, but by no visitors, we cannot deprecate the mission itself an animadversion. To the evinced by Mr Hart in servant to his own plan to refuse a certain cer while indignant at the French and English pe more immediately comm gentlemen who acted as Secretaries and those riding for the due amon on the part of the visit acted with perfect good avoiding any tendency their own importance, whose behalf they were.

That some attention present difficult to predict Commissioner Pin's rep civilization in the West in view of this time propitious for forward those who are anxious and Telegraphs introduced China. His report was carefully prepared details such matters, and afterwar ded the documents personal of the higher a cation for leave to com likely to have a better than at any other time offer of a moderate sub Government, contingenc the scheme, together with to purchase at a fair over which the propos and which is nearly all much may be done. additional reason for railway between Tient space, friends our enter the matter on this occas

THE CHINESE

The Chinese deputation waited on His Excellency this afternoon to receive memorial which they presented. It appears, however, that no answer could not be given, and with a view to the printing and distribution the deputation is postponed to Saturday.

It is to be presumed the Governor told them their views on the jurisdiction ordinances should be separate memorial, he will confine himself in to the matter of Stamp be no great difficulty, their minds at rest on it will doubtless be moving them of the advantage to harbour and protect pirates and murderers, numerous connections fear that no arguments in this respect, as it to their "interest" to with so powerful a force the pirate clans about of nearly two thousand property of those who aid is respected by the ordinances will simply the loss of several thousand numbers here and directly or indirectly tance to these pests of While on the subject deputation we cannot absence of direct Pin the framers of their memorial, by the light Stamp Act was passed ment, by the stress which would result on the other ordinances, or ordinary official et the deputation in without permission to present Governor. That the was an offshoot of the sented document in En quite true, from the f

she and her children
she said she supported
rearing and selling a
two. On being asked
leave the place, she
and trees, held up her
buluh buai. Tuan A

SHANGHAI.

HONGKONG.—*Continued.*

SHIP'S NAME	CAPTAIN	FLAG	TONS	DATE OF ARRIVAL	CORRESPONDING AGENTS	DESTINATION	INTERVED DEPART
Steamers							
Anna		Am at	70	Apr. 12	H. Fogg and Co		
China	Schroon	B. str.	25	July 17	Putnam and Co	Laid up	
City of Nates	Mooney	B. str.	345	July 17	Putnam and Co	Laid up	
Columbian	Stewart	B. str.	600	May 1	Storer and Co	Fulchau	Early
Faust		str	50				
Far-long		chist		Aug. 18	Chinese Government		
Queen	Gray	Am str.		June 20	Russell and Co		
Ganges	Edward	A. str.	1200	Aug. 24	P. & O. S. N. Co		
Grete	Jodow	Pruss str.	30		Wm. Fustau and Co	Laid up	
Hawchew	B. str.	str	30		Capt. Fairbridge		
L. uisa		chist		July 12	O. Sasson, Sons and Co		
Niphol	Peake	B. str.	791	Aug. 19	P. & O. S. N. Co		
Peter-long	Airkinn	B. str.	224	June 13	Stophens and Co		
Qui-Quata	Chingjay	C. ist.	30	July 12	Chinese Government		
Shanyuan	K. str.	str	30		Putnam and Co		
Savanna	Jayne	Am str.	1602	Aug. 18	A. Hard and Co	Laid up	
Tantea	Tubus	Am str.	60	Feb. 19	Russell and Co	Laid up	
Vucon	Randall	B. str.	126	Aug. 12	H. Wignall and Co	Fulchau	
W. L. Long-Fong	McLeeds	B. str.	45	Sept. 10	Stophens and Co		Immed. at
Whampoa	Barie	B. str.	116		G. Barnett and Co	Laid up	
Wilamette	McLeod	chist	176	Aug. 5	Chinese Government		

i	Sp. bg.	177	sept. 18 Reynolds and
vs	B. bk.	587	July 31 R. S. Walker and

Sailing Vessels							
Abbott	Lawrence	Gawrence	am. sh.	1496	June 13	Order	
Acacia		Martin	b. bk.	391	June 16	Order	
Adelaine	Manion	George	B. sh.	980	June 9	Far., Matheson and Co	London
Admiral		Scott	B. bk.	266	Aug 13	John Thorne	Early
Admiral		Dempster	B. bs	293	July 20	A. R. Libby and Co	
Admiral		Hutton	B. bk.	504	July 19	Frazar and Co	London
Admiral		Hale	B. sh	1180	July 10	Olyphant and Co	Early

son	B. sr.	352	sept. 26	A. Scott and Co
	B. bk	318	sept. 29	Arnhold Karner

[illegible]

and B. sh. 1075 June 20, Aug. Heard and

NAME.	RIG.	GEN.	DATE.	CAPTAIN.	WHERE AT.
Mifflin	Brace	B. s.	731	Aug 14	Order
Sizem	Arz	B. s.	500	Aug 14	Order
Osprey	And ewe	s.	730	Aug 14	Chapman, King and Co
Castleton	Von stirt	Drak	269	Aug 14	Sturges and Co
Castleton	Ark bsk	B. s.	600	Aug 14	Sturges and Co
Petrel	Arvis	B. s.	267	Aug 14	24, Chapman and Co
Pom-see	Arider	B. s.	929	July 25	Matheson and Co
Princess of Wales	Ar	B. s.	938	Aug 2	Matheson, Sons and Co
Queen of the Seas	Ar	B. s.	730	July 25	Aug. Matheson and Co
Red Deer	Drum	B. s.	691	Aug 3	Order
Red Deer	Arider	B. s.	687	Aug 3	Smith, Kennedy and Co
Sea Witch	Burche	B. s.	975	June 11	Sassoon, Sons & Co
Simod	Oraydale	B. s.	60	June 26	Howe and Co
Sir W. F. Williams	Alton	B. s.	670	July 25	Law, Brothers and Co
Son Kong	Ar	B. s.	165	Aug 14	St. Wm. Pusey and Co
Trocholan	Mutter	B. s.	1171	Mar 26	Bain, Tate and Co
Tucson	Lewis	B. s.	352	June 4	J. G. Livingston and Co
Vancouver	Corey	B. s.	724	June 14	Matheson, K. Mewy and Co
Wild Dayrell	Darke	B. s.	193	Aug 14	Order
Wild Deer	Orbis	B. s.	1161	Aug 2	J. R. Matheson and Co
White Hazle	Lewis	B. s.	415	July 31	Matheson, Sons and Co
White Melish	Benann	B. s.	702	Aug 24	Oray Wise and Co

hu	Do. bk.	352	May 26	A. A. de Bello
	Pe bk	396	May 2	J. M. del Rio

Acom,	store ship	—		Shanghai
Adventure,	c. Troop ship	4	400 C. L. Waddilove	Yokohama
Algerine,	c. gun-vee	1	80	Hankow
Argus,	ad. sum. ship	6	300 Comr. J. Round	Japan
Baisterer,	c. st. g. h.	3	60 Lieut. Tonkin	Hongkong
Barrosa,	c. str. corvt.	21	400 Capt. Boys	Ordered Home
Basiliak,	ad. str. ship	4	300 W. N. W. Hewett V. C.	Japan

FO b2	220	May 26 Order
nm,bk	343	s pt. 16 B. A. Per iro
nm,bk		s pt. 14 B. A. Percira

Bustard,	gun-boatt.	3	60 Lieut. Macquay	Japan.
Cockchafer,	gun-boatt.	3	60 Lieut. Howard Kerr	Hongkong
Cormorant,	se. st. gun, vs.	4	200 Mr. G. D. Brad	Japan
Cromwell,	gun-boatt. tender	1	130	
Dove, steam ordinary,	gun-boatt.	3	60 Lieut. Hunt	Hongkong
Drake,	gun-boatt.	3	40 Lt. Eaton	Saigow
Firm,	gun-boatt.	3	60 Lieut. Hunt	Hongkong
Flamer, Steam Ordinary,	gun-boatt.	3	60	
Foster,	gun-boatt.	3	60 Lieut. J. E. Stokes	Japan
Grasshopper	gun-boatt.	3	60 Lieut. J. C. Patterson	Hongkong
Hardy,	se. st. g. b.	3	60 Lieut. Morice	Ningpo
Haughty,	gun-boatt.	3	60 Lieut. Singleton	Canton
Hawick,	gun-boatt.	3	60 Lieut. Lard	Hankow
Heper,	steamer ship.	1	150 Staff Com. Thain	
Insolent,	gun-boatt.	3	60 Lieut. G. T. Nicolas	Japan
Jenny,	gun-boatt.	3	40 Lieut. C. W. Johnson	Yokohama
Leven, Steam Ordinary,	gun-vessel	1	100	Japan

Manila,	rev. st. deep. ves.	7	J. R. Ryan (Master)	Shanghai
Melville, Naval Hospital,	hospital,		Dr. Bernard, M.D. P.A.	Hongkong
Opossum, Tender to				
H. M. S. Princess	gun-boat,	3	60 Lieut. Mainwaring	Cruizing
Charlotte,				
Osprey,	s. g. vessel	4	200 Comr. Menzies	Cruizing
Peonius,	sc. stm. clorn	21	400 Capt. Haswell	V. Kohama
Perseus,	sc. st. slov.	17	900 Comr. Stevens	Hankow

FUCHAU.

Princess Royal, Rear-	Receiving ship.	12	Comdr. Oliver Jones	Hongkong
ing the flag of Vice				
Admiral (Geo. St.)	sc. line of ba. sh.	73	Capt. W. G. Jones	Yokohama
Vincent King, C. B.				
finder,	sc. at. loop	17	Comr. Webb	Singapore
Ridham,	sc. Survey ves.	5	100 Lt. W. Reed	Coast of South China
Calcutta	pud desp	250	Comr. G. Suttle	Nagasaki
Scylla,	sc. stm. covr.	12	400 Capt. R. W. Courtney	Hokodati
Serpent,	sc. desp. vessel	4	200 Comr. C. H. Bullcock	Surv. serv. Japan
Slaney,	gun-boat.	1	80 Lieut. J. P. Kenta	Chinkinging foo
Snay,	gun-boat.	3	60 Lieut. Powys	Iguitin
Starling, Steam Ordinary,	gun-boat.	3	60	Hongkang
Staunch, Steam Ordinary,	gun-boat.	3	60	Hongkong
Wanchul, Steam Or-	gun boat	3	40	Hongkong
dinary,				
Wenzle,	sc. st. g.b.	3	60 Lt. Doughty	Shanghai
Woodcock, Steam Or-	gun-boat.	3	40	Hongkong
dinary,				
Leavis,	steam sloop	3	150 Comr. S. P. Townsэнд	Hongkong

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R.N.	I.B.M.			
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